

SECTION 6. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 12, 2017: Yeas 139, Nays 6, 1 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1178 on May 21, 2017: Yeas 133, Nays 7, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 19, 2017: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Approved June 1, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

**PROCEDURE FOR CLAIMING AN EXEMPTION FROM AD
VALOREM TAXATION BY THE DALLAS COUNTY UTILITY
AND RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY
SUBJECT TO A TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE
DISTRICT AND TO THE VALIDATION OF CERTAIN ACTIONS
OF THE DISTRICT**

CHAPTER 339

H.B. No. 1186

AN ACT

relating to the procedure for claiming an exemption from ad valorem taxation by the Dallas County Utility and Reclamation District of certain property subject to a tax abatement agreement with the district and to the validation of certain actions of the district.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 4B, Chapter 628, Acts of the 68th Legislature, Regular Session, 1983, is amended by adding Subdivision (16) to read as follows:

(16) If the district enters into a tax abatement agreement with the owner of single-family residential property to exempt a portion of the taxable value of the property from taxation as authorized by Subdivision (7)(B) of this section, the tax assessor-collector for the district or a person designated by the tax assessor-collector may file an application for the exemption on behalf of the property owner with the chief appraiser for the appraisal district in which the property is located.

SECTION 2. (a) All governmental and proprietary actions of the Dallas County Utility and Reclamation District taken before the effective date of this Act are validated, ratified, and confirmed in all respects as if the actions had been taken as authorized by law.

(b) This section does not apply to any matter that on the effective date of this Act:

(1) is involved in litigation if the litigation ultimately results in the matter being held invalid by a final court judgment; or

(2) has been held invalid by a final court judgment.

SECTION 3. (a) The legal notice of the intention to introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies, officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and Chapter 313, Government Code.

(b) The governor, one of the required recipients, has submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

(c) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives within the required time.

(d) All requirements of the constitution and laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 20, 2017: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 19, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 1, 2017.

Effective June 1, 2017.

**APPOINTMENT OF AND PERFORMANCE OF NOTARIAL
ACTS BY AN ONLINE NOTARY PUBLIC AND ONLINE
ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND PROOF OF WRITTEN
INSTRUMENTS; AUTHORIZING A FEE AND CREATING A
CRIMINAL OFFENSE**

CHAPTER 340

H.B. No. 1217

AN ACT

relating to appointment of and performance of notarial acts by an online notary public and online acknowledgment and proof of written instruments; authorizing a fee and creating a criminal offense.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 121.006, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

(c) *For purposes of Subsection (b), a person may personally appear before the officer taking the acknowledgment by:*

(1) *physically appearing before the officer; or*

(2) *appearing by an interactive two-way audio and video communication that meets the online notarization requirements under Subchapter C, Chapter 406, Government Code, and rules adopted under that subchapter.*

(d) *The acknowledgment form provided by this chapter must include a space for an online notarization as defined by Section 406.101, Government Code, to indicate by which method described by Subsection (c) the acknowledging person appeared before the officer.*

SECTION 2. Chapter 121, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Section 121.016 to read as follows:

Sec. 121.016. EFFECT OF OTHER LAW. To the extent that a provision of this chapter conflicts with Subchapter C, Chapter 406, Government Code, that subchapter controls with respect to an online notarization as defined by Section 406.101, Government Code.

SECTION 3. Chapter 406, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter C to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C. ONLINE NOTARY PUBLIC